



ARIZONA MODEL UNITED NATIONS Inter-American Development Bank

The Inter-American Development Bank (or the IDB) is an organization that provides financial and technical support for development in the Latin American and Caribbean region. The IDB was founded in 1959 as a partnership between 19 Latin American countries and the United States. Their main focus is on reduction of poverty and gender inequality.

The IDB consists of 48 member countries that are represented by the Board of Executive directors. Although in reality the 48 member states are distributed between the 14 members of the Executive Board, i.e. one member handles the financial funding of more than one country, the AZMUN IDB committee will be run in a way where each of the 48 member states has their own delegate on the IDB Executive Board. Additionally, all delegates will have equal voting power in this committee.

Committee Website:

<http://www.iadb.org/en/inter-american-development-bank,2837.html>

Encouraging Gender Equality in the Global Marketplace

The IDB started majorly as a financial lending institute that over the years has incorporated social justice and equality into its organization goals. They encourage gender equality by way of gender mainstreaming, direct investment and gender safeguards.

The following links will help you understand the policies implemented by the IDB to move towards their goal of gender equality.

Websites to Read:

- <http://www.iadb.org/en/topics/gender-indigenous-peoples-and-african-descendants/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment,2604.html>
- <http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=35428399>

Questions to Consider:

1. How has your country embraced gender equality or been impacted by previous IDB policies to increase gender equality?
2. What future IDB policies regarding gender equality would your country support?
3. How can gender equality be linked to financial dealings to encourage innovation in countries that are behind?

Creating Frameworks for Cross-Border Infrastructure

The IDB helps to profligate regional and international trade and investment agreements by providing technical support. They offer training and infrastructure development to government officials aiming to work on cross-border infrastructure and policy harmonization.

They recently released their Integration and Trade Sector Framework Document that outlines ways to work together to reduce cross-border transaction costs, foster economic development, create jobs and contribute towards reduction of poverty. The document also touches upon topics such as constriction of physical infrastructure, transportation networks, bridging the digital divide and bringing together public and private sector leaders for regional dialogues on economic policy and integration.

Websites to read:

- <http://www.iadb.org/en/sector/regional-integration/sector-framework,18409.html>
- <http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=38063641>

Questions to Consider:

1. What kinds of measures can be taken to overcome national policies of trade protectionism which make foreign investment and infrastructure development harder?
2. How can IDB help to deal with the high costs associated with infrastructure development?
3. How can IDB support development despite the high level of management staff and support required?